

TEXAS

Zone 1 Outstanding Earth Team Volunteer

Peggy Pippin joined the Earth Team in May 1989. She has contributed more than 15,000 plus hours of volunteer service to the Hartley NRCS Field Office and the Hartley Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).

Peggy grew up in Hartley, Texas and feels a great connection to the area and residents. Her Dad, Ken Cunningham is the District Conservationist at Hartley.

She enjoys riding horses as well as helping her Dad and Mom with the family's authentic chuck wagon. They enter and win many chuck wagon competitions all over the United States.

Peggy acts as caretaker for field trial windbreak trees, assists with the layout and check out of conservation practices for irrigation pipeline measurements, profiles landscapes by use of the level and level rods, and helps conduct plan preparation and contract folders. In addition, her time is utilized in the office completing such tasks as filing, answering the telephone, making copies, greeting customers, and helping with information/education programs. She is always willing to complete office errands such as delivering articles to the newspaper, and assisting the field personnel in maintaining the care of the office vehicles.

Overall, Peggy makes a top hand in the field. She uses Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment and Topcon units in the field for mapping, and has had some background in working with the Conservation Security Program (CSP) in the Punta de Agua Watershed, which was chosen as one of the 18 priority watersheds nationwide in 2004. Her work has saved many steps for the office staff.

Every year Peggy assists the SWCD with the windbreak tree sales as well as irrigation supplies. According to her supervisor, Clifton Miller, "Peggy does anything and everything that we can think of for her to do, and the staff is most appreciative of what Peggy does".

She is active in the First Baptist Church of Hartley. She also helps with the SWCD and NRCS educational programs by distributing educational materials to the local churches and schools.

In the past Peggy has won several volunteer awards. Recently she was awarded with the 2003 Zone 1 Volunteer Award presented by Mickey Black, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations in 51 counties of the Panhandle and South Plains regions of Texas.



Volunteer Peggy Pippin operates the GPS system; technology used by NRCS and SWCD's in assisting private landowners with conservation planning and application.